
FORMER PORT MELBOURNE CABLE TRAM CAR SHED TRACK PRECINCT

Location

BEACH STREET PORT MELBOURNE, PORT PHILLIP CITY

Municipality

PORT PHILLIP CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-2264

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The remains in the tram track precinct are highly significant as they display how Melbourne's cable tram system operated.

The extensive Melbourne cable tramway system was installed in 1885-91. It was vested in the newly formed Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Board (M&MTB) in 1919 and the M&MTB soon began a program to replace the cable network with electric tramways and to build new electric lines. In 19 the M&MTB built a new car shed in Howard Street North Melbourne to replace the original North Melbourne tram shed (Flemington Road) which was closed to allow the cable line in Flemington Road between Flemington Bridge and Abbotsford Street to be electrified. The Howard Street shed was closed in 19 when the remainder of the North Melbourne cable line was electrified.

Archaeological
Significance

The precinct in the streets outside former cable tram sheds has potential to contain significant 19th century archaeological remains (such as double tram tracks, wood blocked and/or stone setts paving, deep concrete cable tunnels centered under each track, inspection manholes and cast iron covers, large brick pits for the horizontal sheaves, and possibly small traces of equipment). They are less likely to be intact for sites where the cable tramway was replaced by an electric tramway because the cable tram infrastructure was unsuitable for electric trams and was generally removed for construction of the electric tracks.

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Hermes
Number

118250

Property
Number

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>